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# YEMEN TIMES

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## OUR VIEWPOINT

### Car Thefts, One More Time

What is the purpose of allowing the security situation to deteriorate? Why can't the government put some patrol units on the inter-city highways? Why can't the government provide safety in our cities? What is the decency in targeting foreigners, who are here to help us, by making their lives harder than they already are? Is it really a question of safety or is all this an interesting play?

This week, the Dutch lost two cars. One on April 11th, in the middle of Sanaa at 7:30 P.M. near a busy part of the city. The second car was hijacked on April 14th just outside Bajil in Hodeidah. To add insult to injury, the thieves and highway robbers take not only the cars, but also the personal belongings, equipment, papers for projects, etc.

A letter from A.J.H. Negenman of the GDH to the Dutch ambassador states: "The event means a big loss for the GDH as vehicle and equipments are booked in the fieldwork planning of the Hydrological Monitoring Department. It also means irreplaceable loss of valuable monitoring data of rainfall stations in the Wadi Surdud... The work will have to be stopped."

Many organizations are already refusing to work in certain parts of the country. Don't the people of Anis or Nihm (or wherever the vehicles are hijacked) know that they risk having their regions blacklisted, and thus deprived of any assistance and development projects? Maybe government officials could go on TV and explain that regions which cause problems may be deprived off investments and development projects.

The government and security apparatus have to put their acts together and resolve this problem once and for all. Yemen stands to lose a lot if this process continues.

**The Publisher**  
عبدكريم

# ELECTION WEEK:

## YSP Seen as Most Likely Loser As Observer Contend that Worldwide Swing to the Right Will Show in Yemen's Elections

It is all in the air. Yes, it is. But there are solid indicators that the Yemeni Socialist Party, which presently makes up some 50% of the executive body, will definitely have a smaller share.

Some of the proof is local specially in Taiz, which was once considered a YSP stronghold and where the PGC and Islah were believed to have been excluded. The facts are different as the independents and public figures shifted their support. Three examples will show this:

1. Dr. Yasseen Abdul-Aleem Al-Qubati is a well-respected person who has done a lot for the poor and sick, specially the lepers. He is an independent personality who used to support the YSP. Today, Dr. Qubati is face to face with a YSP candidate in Taiz. "It has created a lot of ill feelings," he said

2. Mr. Omer Al-Jawi is long a supporter of the YSP. He was clearly promised by the YSP that they will not allow their people to compete against him if he runs. He is running in Lahj and the YSP is competing against him. "It comes in bad taste," he said.

3. Dr. Mohammed Abdul Malik Al-Mutawakkil has hit the papers many times in announcing his support for the YSP. He is now competing against the YSP, as well as others, in Sanaa. "I expected their support," he said.

"The elections are going to reduce the YSP down to size. The gap will be filled by the Islah," commented an observer. It is hard to estimate the outcome of the elections, but many agree that the PGC will probably be number one, followed by

the Islah, and then the YSP.

Among the smaller parties, the Nasserites, Rabibat Abnaa Al-Yemen, the Baath, and Hizbul-Haq will make a reasonable showing.

By far the most important group in the coming parliament will be the independents, mostly liberal intellectuals. These are expected to form a right-off-center bloc that will attract many of the disenchanted members of other parties, or those who may want to liberate themselves from the dictates of power-hungry and corrupt politicians.

All in all, the elections are going to bring a lot of much needed new blood to Yemen's politics. It hopefully will also create a watershed in the way government is managed in this country. Please keep your fingers crossed.



**Removing That Extra Fat**  
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## 6000 Iraqis in Yemen

Yemen Times learned that the number of Iraqis working in Yemen now exceeds 6,000 persons, and is expected to reach 10,000 by end of year.

According to a source in the Department of Immigration and Passports, the Iraqis receive the same consideration as the Palestinians living in Yemen.

Most of the Iraqis are semi-skilled individuals, and many are teachers.

## Operation Bovine Storm?

Yemen Times learned that the US Peace Corps will be evacuating its volunteers to Hodeidah during the week of the elections. Approximately 27 PC volunteers are presently serving in Yemen. On April 25, all of them will be sent to Hodeidah until the furor, which some people are calling Operation Bovine Storm, over the elections dies down. Linked with the evacuation is a training seminar on first aid. It could come in handy for the volunteers who will be in a malaria-prone area at the start of the warm season.

## A Schism in the NCFE

According to Mr. As-Soufi, there is a serious schism within the ranks of the National Committee for Free Elections (NCFE). "We participated in this effort, not to be subservient to any local or foreign circles, but to really serve this country by creating the base for a truly democratic system," he said.

The NCFE has gradually been transformed into a tool for certain individuals and groups. As-Soufi indicated that the NCFE has opened investigations regarding the allegations that were published in certain newspapers.

The issue of personal grandeur and the credibility of the management of the NCFE is at stake in light of the perceived partiality of some leading NCFE members and their ability in objectively monitoring the elections.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, As-Soufi also expressed worry about the association with the NDI, which so far "has only provided the NCFE with promises."

In his concluding remarks, As-Soufi called on all the political parties and other groups to cooperate with the NCFE, and expressed his welcome to Mr. Ahmad Bahabib who joined the NCFE management.

The SEC had demanded that the NCFE merge with another local monitoring committee headed by Dr. Abdul-Wahab Rawah, a well-known professor at Sanaa University.

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## إمتحانات تجريبية في اللغة الإنجليزية لطلاب ثالث ثانوي

### Third Year Secondary School English Language Trial Exams

Prepared by:  
Jamal Shamekh,  
English Language Teacher, Yarim.

Answers on page 15.  
More Trials Exams Next Week.

#### LITERARY SECTION: Questions Based on Units 3 and 4:

- A. Choose the answer from a, b or c:**
- The boy sitting behind keeps \_\_\_\_\_ all the time.  
a. taking b. to talk c. talk
  - Jamila wrote the definition \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. down b. up c. on
  - The Pill \_\_\_\_\_ I took made me sleepy.  
a. who b. whose c. which
  - I \_\_\_\_\_ to live in Ibb, but I don't now.  
a. used b. need c. must
  - Arwa speaks \_\_\_\_\_ fast that I can't understand her.  
a. so b. too c. such
  - Radium \_\_\_\_\_ in 1898.  
a. discovers b. discovered c. was discovered
  - She looks in her dictionary \_\_\_\_\_ find the correct spelling of a word.  
a. so that b. in order to c. but
  - She is used to \_\_\_\_\_ light meals.  
a. eat b. eating c. eaten
  - After eating my lunch, I \_\_\_\_\_ a short nap.  
a. take b. took c. taking
  - The weather was bad yesterday, \_\_\_\_\_ we played the match.  
a. because b. but c. so

#### B. Correct the mistakes in each of the following sentences.

- It's house keeping tell me to give up smoking.
- She will get used to speak French when she lives in France.
- Since I come here I have learnt many things about life in Yereem.
- She is so kindly that everyone loves and respects her.
- Both men smiled warm at each other.

#### C. Fill in each blank with the correct word.

- tribes, experiences, battle, terrible, famous, defeated
- Yesterday I felt \_\_\_\_\_ but I am felling better today.
  - They lost the \_\_\_\_\_ but they still went on fighting.
  - There are many \_\_\_\_\_ here.
  - She was talking about her \_\_\_\_\_ as a rural doctor.
  - Our boxer had been \_\_\_\_\_ three times in a row.

#### SCIENTIFIC SECTION: Questions Based on Unit TWO:

- A. choose the correct words from those in quotes.**
- I invited all my friends but "few, a few, little" came.
  - A cork was fitted "in, into, with" the flask.
  - Glass is "softer, soluble, brittle", so it breaks easily.
  - I "measure, measured, was measured" by the nurse last month.
  - While he "am reading, read, was reading" the book, doorbell rang.
  - The students "who, whom, whose" names are here must come with Parents.
  - People seem to like him, he has made "few, a few, a little" friends.
  - We make windows out of glass because glass is "transparent, rigid, flexible".
  - The question is very difficult but "few, a few, a little" answer it.
  - There is very "little, a little, few" water in the jar.

#### B. Change the Active sentences into Passive sentences:

- Newton invented a mirror.
- He has filled the flash with coloured water.
- Nobody has done the exercise.
- She will cook the food.
- She draws that picture every lesson.

#### C. Correct the mistakes in each of the following.

- Water expand when it's heated.
- Little money are needed.
- First the apparatus assembled.
- The rubber tube is attached with the gas tap.
- The funnel is cubic.

#### D. Define the following:

- exterior
- a flask
- a stand

#### E. Write the following in figures:

- Pi equals approximately three point one four
- Five eighths is greater than a third
- Six multiplied by twelve equals seven two

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ص ب رقم ١٩٨٤٥ - صنعاء

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تلفون: ٢١٧-٠٤٠/١/٢/٣

فاكس: ٢١١-٨٨٣

ص ب رقم ٤٨٩٤ - الحديدة

ترقبوا فروعنا في المكلا، عدن، تعز، إب



**KISMAYU SEEN AS STUMBLING BLOCK TO SOMALI PEACE**

The southern port of Kismayu, torn by clan fighting is likely to be the UN's biggest challenge in Somalia when it takes charge next month.

"Kismayu is going to be a continental problem. This is a dispute which will take a lot of work in trying to find a solution," said retired Admiral Jonathan Howe, the UN's special envoy in Somalia.

Howe made his first visit to the Kismayu region on the first week of this month and was bombarded with complaints that Belgian troops, part of a US-led multinational force, and the UN were taking "We are not your enemy. We are your friends and we are trying very hard to find a peaceful solution here," Howe told supporters of warlord Omar Jess, whose militia is fighting forces loyal to Mohamed Said Hersi, also known as "Morgan."

The 900 Belgian troops based in Kismayu say both factions have been using women and children as human shields during clashes, making intervention difficult.

"Don't you realize what a tough time we are having stopping this fighting. Do you want us to open fire on women and children?" A Belgian officer asked a Jess supporter who accused foreign troops of siding with Morgan.

The US-led multinational forces arrived in Somalia last December to restore order and end the looting of food convoys intended for the starving.

The United States is due to hand over command to the United Nations next month.

While a semblance of normality has returned to most areas, Kismayu remains a stumbling block to peace. When the Belgians arrived in the southern port, Jess was the dominant warlord. But with two months, Morgan had won the right for supremacy. Morgan is the son-in-law of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre, whose ouster in January, 1991 touched off Somalia's civil war.

Jess supporters accuse the UN and US-led forces of trying to bring Siad Barre back into Somalia by supporting Morgan. Belgian Brig-Gen. Ramond Keymeulen, who denied supporting either side, told reporters that Jess' ragtag militia was trying to launch a last-minute push on the port before rains arrived.

"I think they might try to retake parts of the city before the rains come and communication and transport becomes difficult. But they are poorly armed and I do not think they will have much success," Keymeulen said.

Belgian troops evacuated about 1,000 Jess supporters at the beginning of this month from Kismayu after they came under attack from Morgan's militia. The evacuees are now in small villages north of Kismayu. Makeshift hospitals have been set up to treat those wounded in the fighting. The UN has sent extra medicine and food for the evacuees, who are bitter about leaving their homes.

At Baar, where many of the evacuees were taken, doctors said seven wounded people had died in the past week. "Many of the injured are malnourished and we do not have enough medicines. All these people just want to go back to their homes," a doctor, who traveled with the evacuees, told Howe.

But Keymeulen said it would be impossible to send the evacuees, told back unless the security situation improved. "If we were to take them back to Kismayu now, there would be war. These people know they would be killed," Keymeulen said.

"I can understand that these people are upset. Their homes have been taken from them and they are poor. But I don't think the solution is a military one, it has to come from the politicians.

The UN has sent it top political advisers to Kismayu to try and broker a solution, but so far the visits have been fruitless.

"From what I have seen today, we have real problems. I don't think these people are ready yet for peace," a UN official said after visiting the Kismayu region.

**EGYPT OPENS UP FINANCIAL MARKETS**

Egypt, trying to inject life into its financial markets, will exempt investors from taxes on stock market profits and abolish a ceiling on corporate bond interest rates, allowing Egyptian firms to complete effectively for the first time. Local bankers said the new law, in effect last week, should bring Cairo's long dormant stock market - once the sixth largest in the world - back to life within months.

"I'd say it will take about three months for new brokerages and investment houses to get organized and then we'll see them start drawing Egyptian firms into the market," said Aladdin Saba, vice-president of Kidder Peabody.

Over 600 companies are listed on the Cairo exchange, but only about 25 trade actively after a 1960's wave of nationalization and 30 years of socialist-style economics all but killed it off.

The ceiling on corporate bonds, at 10% meant private firms were unable to complete with bills or bank deposits, which offer over 15%.

Foreign investment in Egypt has soared since it began reforms to overhaul its economy two years ago, but bankers say the lack of liquidity and the archaic financial structure have severely disadvantaged Cairo in competing for capital. Egypt's official gazette last week published executive regulations for the law, which was passed last year.

Western and Gulf Arab investors have pumped billions of dollars into Egypt's oil and tourist industries, which deal directly with international markets. Bankers say investors recognized potential in other sectors such as agriculture and industry.

The pound and interest rates in 1991 drew in billions of dollars in foreign holdings, but most of it sat idly in high-yielding bank deposits and treasury bills. The new law will also raise local and foreign investor interest in a string of privatizations.

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# THE ELECTORAL PROGRAMS OF THE THREE BIG PARTIES

## 1. The People's General Congress

While the People's General Congress (PGC) bears national responsibility, it affirms its full adherence to basis and principles that are loyal to the Almighty God, the homeland and the Revolution. The PGC adheres to Islam as a faith and a sharia law, the republican system, and the protection of unity and democracy based on the multi-party system. It also guarantees the right of opposition, the right of expression in its different forms, and its adherence to the constitution, constitutional legitimacy, and the peaceful transfer of power. The PGC affirms its support for the sovereignty of law and order, and upholds the rights of citizens such as freedom, equality, social justice, security, education, health and the upkeep of the modern state. The PGC focuses its concern on the family as the essential core of society.

The PGC presents its election program secure in the knowledge that, since it emanates from the people, it can accurately assess and meet the people's needs. Therefore, the PGC pledges to the Yemeni people that it will do its utmost to achieve more democratic accomplishments and move the country into a period of justice and comprehensive development.

The PGC presents itself for the accurate completion of these noble goals and wishes of the people of Yemen, which are enumerated in this program. The program is also based on the contents of the National Charter, promising a change for the better for people in all walks of life and the achievement of urgent reforms in the state's institutions.

### Economy

The PGC proposes economic reforms to meet all of the following:

- Economic freedom of investment to promote competition and balance between the needs and the production of the country.
- The sound, gradual implementation of market policy.
- Easing of the economic suffering of the people.
- The assurance of basic goods at a fixed price and guaranteed quality.
- Improving the Balance of Payments.
- Limiting inflation and price hikes.
- Expediting the Aden Free Zone.
- Revamping economic and financial institutions.
- Subsidization of the agriculture and fishing industries to increase production.

### Social Development

The PGC affirms its promise to exert its efforts to:

- Guarantee the rights of women from the Koran and the constitution.
- Expand education to meet the growing needs of the society.

- Support educators and their institutions.
- Meet the people's needs for information in the media and the basic freedom of speech and expression.
- Meeting the needs of mosques to help them fulfil their educational role.

### Administrative Reforms

The plans to expose and reform corruption in the following manner, by:

- Reforming administrative bodies to destroy corruption such as negligence and bribery.
- Paying employees on time.
- Emphasizing job specialization and not politics in the work place.
- Revamping the local government system.
- Application of the electoral system to local government.
- Investment in the health care field.
- Development of a more efficient transportation and communication system.
- Encouraging development of housing resources.
- Rectifying the land issues in Eastern Yemen.
- Encouraging labor unions.
- Developing a social security system.
- Assisting the reintegration of the returning emigrants into the construction of the new homeland.
- Aiding the families who were affected by the political conflicts of the previous, divisive era.

### Security and Defense

The PGC vows to:

- Improve bonds between the people and security men.
- Combat crime, riots, and terrorism.
- Reforming the structure of the security apparatus.
- Enforcing the laws about drug trafficking and bringing criminals to justice.
- Improving overall prison conditions.

### Judicial Reform

The PGC intends to improve the effectiveness of the law by:

- Stressing autonomy and modernization.
- Choosing honest employees.
- Clearing the backlog of cases.
- Simplifying procedures.

### Foreign Affairs

The PGC believes in the importance of a strong foreign policy; therefore, it will work to:

- Develop relations with the Gulf Cooperation Council.
- Resolve border issues with Saudi Arabia.
- Stand beside the people of Palestine in their quest for independence.

In conclusion, it is the desire of the PGC to hold on to its vision of an improved Yemen and to reaffirm its adherence to the rights, freedoms, justice, equality, and political participation of the people as they choose their deputies to represent their interests at the local and the national levels.

## 2. The Yemeni Socialist Party

The Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) is currently led by Ali Salem Al-Beidh, the second in command of the Yemeni state. Since it declared its abandonment of proletarian internationalism, the party has redefined its strategy, establishing the bases of a Yemeni-style socialism.

The YSP declares its main aim to be to strengthen national unity and democracy, and to bring about social justice. The YSP's program is divided into ten chapters.

As a priority, the YSP aims to reinforce security and ensure the country's stability. "Draconian measures must be taken against the perpetrators of assassinations, against those who incite disorder, and against all those who threaten the security of our society." To this end, the YSP seeks to improve the training and living conditions of the security forces. Its aim is to reinforce state security throughout the country, and in particular to find a solution to the problem of tribal power and the resultant anarchy.

In the second chapter, the YSP deals with national defence. The party wishes that "the state should possess a unified army, well-trained and very well equipped, which will remain outside politics and respectful of the people's will." For the YSP, the unification of the armed forces is an urgent task. The party also declares that the army must be made to leave the "barracks which it occupies in the major cities" of the country.

In the third chapter, the YSP sets out its economic policy. It declares itself to be in favor of an economy in which competition is practised freely. The Socialist party wants to encourage the Yemeni diaspora to invest in the country; without administrative obstruction. It declares its determination to encourage investment by other Arab countries in petroleum and mineral extraction. Also, to permit industrial development, to take place, it considers that the necessary infrastructures must be created. As for the development of agricultural/livestock production, the party proposes to encourage investment, while facilitating loans and credits made to farmers, and by expanding irrigation through the building of dams.

Elsewhere, the YSP proposes to vote in a law that will fix the price of basic foodstuffs and medicines. It also wishes to put in place a fair policy on wages, which will "correspond to price levels."

In addition, the YSP wants to pass a law determining relations between landowners and cultivators, and another law that will regulate relations between landlords and tenants. Finally, the YSP demands the implementation of the Aden Free Zone.

In the fourth chapter, the YSP deals with education, culture, health and housing. The party wants to continue with free schooling, and proposes that elementary education should be gradually be made compulsory. It also aims to improve the training of teachers and their standard of living.

Regarding higher education, it wishes to see the creation of an Islamic university and also proposes to speed the construction of the universities of Taiz and Hadhramaut.

In the field of health, the YSP gives priority to preventive medical services. It seeks to improve the training and living standards of health employees. It also proposes the involvement of local councils in the management of health services, and aims to allow the investment of private capital in the health sector.

With regards housing, the YSP proposes to develop housing for lower income groups, and to encourage housing cooperatives.

In a fifth chapter, the YSP declares war on injustice. First of all, the party wants to abolish private prisons; it intends to forbid all arrests not ordered by a judge. It seeks to modernize judicial system and to strengthen its impartiality, by appointing judges on the basis of their competence, and guaranteeing them an appropriate standard of living. The YSP declares its intention to apply justice equally to all, even to those at the top. Finally, the YSP intends to ensure that tax revenue reaches the state coffers.

In a sixth chapter, the YSP declares war on corruption, "the root cause of all our ills." In particular, it wants to end the corruption existing within the state apparatus. The seventh section deals with decentralization. The Socialist Party wants to transfer some public authority to the governorates since it maintains that "local authority (devolved power) is the essential basis of democracy."

Human rights are the subject of the eighth chapter. The YSP pledges to respect freedom of opinion, as well as the right to free association, to public demonstration, and the right to strike. It seeks to forbid the surveillance of citizens, and to guarantee the rights of women. Finally, it calls for the banning of all exceptional powers.

In the ninth chapter, "the YSP considers the question of natural resources: "the exploitation of natural resources must serve the development of the country."

Finally, in the concluding chapter, the YSP deals with foreign relations, in particular, with neighboring countries. The party sets to find a peaceful solution to border problems.

By: Jerome Bernard, French Editor, Yemen Times

## 3. The Yemeni Congregation for Reform

The Yemeni Congregation for Reform, commonly known by its Arabic name, Al-Islah (meaning reform), declares itself to be Islamist, and it currently headed by Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hus-sain Al-Ahmar, leader of the Hashed tribal confederation, to which President Ali Abdullah Saleh also belongs.

The Islah affirms that it is not putting forward any forward "miraculous solutions: "we don't claim to be able to improve things overnight." The party intends to present itself as a continuation of the Yemeni reformist movements of the modern era.

According to 'Al-Islah, the country is, first of all, the victim of rivalry between governments which "act according to their personal and partisan interests." The program of the Islamist party consists of three chapters. The first one establishes the party's major priorities. The second chapter, by far the most important, puts forward the action to be taken as regards domestic policies. Finally, the last chapter sets out the decisions of Al-Islah in the realm of international politics.

In the first chapter, it is noticeable how relative little space is given to religious matters. It mentions that Islam is a system which directs all aspects of life, and from which comes a complete realization of mankind. Islah professes its commitment to oppose all divisive factors, so as to preserve national unity. It also professes its commitment to the republican regime.

The freedom to express one's ideas and opinions is also emphasized, since this forms part of the freedoms guaranteed by Sharia law. Another recurrent principle in Islah's manifesto is that of "peaceful alternation of power, to the ballot box". Among the party's priorities, one may note the reform of the constitution in the light of Islamic law (Sharia), which should be the source of all legislation. For the Islah, "the reform of the situation starts with the reform of man." Also worth noting is the party's determination to close down the Aden beer factory, which constitutes "a challenge to God's law", as well as a call for an all-out struggle against financial and administrative corruption.

In the second chapter in the legislative domain, Islah demands that the future Parliament should be able to play its full role in legislation and control. "The reform of the country's constitution will not take place until Parliament becomes an effective instrument." The ambiguity of certain articles of the constitution, or their contradiction of Sharia principles, will necessitate changes. "The articles of the constitution, its fundamental principles should be clearly defined, without leaving room for ambiguities, and the constitution should confirm its superior reference to the Koran and Sunna."

Still on the subject of Legislation, the Islah manifesto refers to the necessity of talking inspiration form con-

structive purposes made by the ulema. Islah also hopes to work towards "the depending of relations between Parliament and people", so as to maintain a relationship of mutual trust, and to perpetuate the experiment in consultative democracy (Shurawiyya).

### A Liberal Economic Policy

Islah seeks to conduct a policy of decentralization, to reinforce the apparatus of control, and put an end to the concealed unemployment existing in every ministry. There is also a desire to see the armed forces fulfilling their "mission of democratic defense founded on the principle of the peaceful alternation of power".

Information is a key word in the Islah manifesto, in the sense that the media must play their role in developing the people's "conscience", making the people more responsible, in promoting trust between governors and governed. The necessary freedom of the press, free from all outside influence, is affirmed.

On the economic front, Islah proclaims a liberal standpoint, seeking to encourage local and foreign investments in certain fields such as advanced technology and heavy industry (petrochemicals). The party hopes to encourage the creation of light industries, and also favors the agricultural sector.

The party also aims to alleviate the current economic difficulties (reduction of the budget deficit, a curb on the devaluation of the Riyal in inflation). To improve social justice, Islah plans to rely on direct taxation rather than indirect taxes. It also argues for better public information by the state concerning the utilization of oil revenues; the party also remains opposed to usury.

Finally, the party reaffirms, Islah argues for the implementation of the principle of compulsory schooling (primary/preparatory level), for the creation of scientific institutes and schools for Koranic learning, the broadening of educational opportunities for women, the modernization of curricula, a better defined educational policy, and the implementation of the planned literacy campaigns.

Islah intends to work towards a general improvement of communications systems and of the health sector (for an improved distribution of hospitals and dispensaries throughout the country, and the encouragement of private investments in the hospital sector). The preservation of the family, the protection of women from exploitation, also from part of Islah's policy, along with a much-needed reduction in the cost of marriage.

As regards foreign policy, Islah reaffirms its traditional allegiance and solidarity towards the Arab and Muslim world; particularly towards Palestine and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The party hopes to put an end to the negative consequences of the Gulf War.

By: Benoit Loncle 14/4/93

### Key Question:

Can this party survive as a party in the absence of Ali Abdullah Saleh, or in the loss of the facilities of being a ruling party?

### Key Question:

How truly reformed is this former communist party given that most of its current officials are former rulers of the former PDRY?

### Key Question:

Where is the drawing line between religious ideals and the search for power. Is it morally superior or is it just another political party?



**BE SURE!**

We are fast approaching the elections. People in Yemen and outside are waiting for zero hour patiently and cautiously. The post-elections era will enable Yemen to tackle its current situation, in which there are a number of shortcomings and excesses. There are some who suspect this election will not be honest, and they give a variety of evidence to substantiate their doubts.

As for me, I am sure that the elections will proceed on time and it will be honest... why? Because, every day, I hear senior officials affirm that the elections will be free and honest. I tell myself, "Surely, they are not telling lies. If they do not respect their own people, at least what are they going to tell the world after all of these announcements and declarations.

It is true that many lies and liars, but let us not despair and motivate our people to go forward and no setback will affect them. I am sure that our values will prevail and will give a good example of a small nation that wants to live by its ideals. Let us remember our Prophet's saying. "The faith is Yemeni and wisdom is from Yemen." Hence, let us stick to this wisdom so as to achieve our goals and let the world talk about us.

By Ali bin Abdullah Al-Wasee,  
Al-Sahwa, Sana'a,  
15/4/1993.

**TRIBAL TRADITION IS A CONSTITUTION IN ITSELF**

The Raay correspondent had this interview with Sheikh Ali bin Ali Alsa'adi, from Nihm tribe, on the occasion of his candidature to the House of Representative. Excerpts from the interview.

**Q: What do you visualise as the most important issues to be discussed in the next parliament?**

**A:** There are a lot of accumulated issues, particularly issues regarding the economic and security conditions which require immediate tackling. Another important point is protecting state funds from misuses and investing them in development projects for the prosperity of the homeland.

We are working seriously to find solutions in dialogues with the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf states to improve the Yemeni-Gulf relations. Generally, we ought to have a legislative authority that can supervise the government's activities.

**Q: The country suffers from widespread corruption. What are the causes of this?**

**A:** The corruption that exists in all government institutions is made by the state itself. Ironically, we hear even senior officials complain of the corruption. This reflects the structure of the state after unity which is in reality a structure of different groups lumped together rather than a unified whole.

**Q: How do you evaluate the first stage of elections?**

**A:** The division of the constituencies was not optimal, because it did not take the geography or tribal affiliation into full consideration.

**Q: Most of rural Yemen lives a state of negligence; what is your point of view?**

**A:** Nihm, as an example, is a large region and it had an outstanding role in supporting the revolution. But it suffers a lot, particularly in services, such as electricity, education, road construction, and sanitation. Above all, rural Yemen suffers from tribal vengeance due to the absence of security.

**Q: What are the pressing requirements of Nihm?**

**A:** Shortage of water and the difficulty of getting it is the major problem for the citizens of the region. The only solution is to build dams.

**Q: Tribal relations are governed by tradition and a constitution. Do you think these have relevance to our modern life?**

**A:** Tribal interaction is governed by tradition and acode or constitution which are all good and valid for every place and time, and he who ignores them does not realize their noble goals. But, the authorities are responsible for distorting these tribal traditions and codes by inciting differences and strife among the tribes.

By Raay, Sana'a,  
13/4/1993.

**WILL THE SITUATION CHANGE AFTER THE ELECTIONS?**

It is evident that most of the candidates participating in the elections do not have plans to change the situation for the better. The electoral competition is good if it leads to the progress of the country. Candidacy should not be a final goal, by itself. Potential members of parliament should not think of their own interests, like obtaining fancy cars, wealth and authority. What is significant is bringing change, eliminating the causes of strife, combatting corruption, cessation of the plundering of the state funds and achieving justice and stability.

Really, there are a lot of points which require the attention of the coming parliament.

A candidate should swear before Almighty God to work for the general good and to tell the truth and defend it. Candidate ought to think of the country's and the citizens' interests before any other interests.

The candidate should know that strife, sectarianism, tribalism, and favoritism are some of the basic causes of the weakness and downfall of nations.

I think that improvement of the situation is not likely and I further believe that the situation will get worse even after the elections.

It is our duty to bring justice and to set the alarm calling for the implantation of Al-Sharia.

By Ibraheem bin Mohammed Al-Wazir,  
Al-Balagh, Sana'a,  
13/4/1993.

**THE ELECTIONS AND THE POLITICAL PARTIES**

It is essential these days for the political parties to unify their endeavors and to bypass any contradictions and differences. It is our duty to avoid narrow self-serving

calculations because the interests of the homeland and our people are above all considerations. It is also our duty not to let the corrupt elements ascend to membership of parliament. Such a position will represent a victory for freedom and democracy. We haven't got a lot of time to spare for chatter or accusations. A clear standpoint is necessary away from verbose outbidding. As it is known, our aim is to build a state based on law and order and institutions. Let us proceed with the elections with open hearts and open eyes to block the corrupt and opportunistic elements from reaching the House of Representatives.

By: Najeeb Abdulla Al-Asbahi,  
Al-Gumhurriyah, Taiz,  
15/4/1993

**MEANINGFUL WORDS**

We are sure that our voting pattern will be based on a sense of loyalty and that votes will not be cast haphazardly to those candidates who do not deserve support. This call is directed faithfully to all Yemeni athletes who have registered for the elections. Every athlete is required to vote in this election. 'You should think before casting the ballots and your choice should be for the candidate who will provide stability, security, freedom, justice, equality, and prosperity for the homeland and its citizens.'

The votes should be awarded to those who oppose oppression and corruption in all its forms. I think the athletes, with what they possess of athletic soul and flexibility of movement, will put their trust only in those candidates who have credibility.

Let us compete peacefully and democratically, bridging the gaps and voting for those who are ready to bear the responsibility, though it is a heavy burden in our society. The homeland is waiting for your participation on the 27th of April.

By: Abdul Hameed Al-Saidi,  
Al-Thawri, Sana'a,  
15/4/1993

**WE ELECT OUR RULERS BY OUR FREE WILL, NOT THEIRS**

Why do people seem to have all this concern for the elections? And why do all the candidates compete for the seats in parliament? Does it have to do with the salary of the parliamentarian and the privileges of being part of the authority? Does it have to do with fame, or what...? I have heard that some laymen think that it is lunacy to run for election, because the rulers are in their seats and they're not ready to give them up. They are even ready to fight to keep their authority, and he who dares to defy them will expose him/herself to harm and perhaps endanger his/her life. There is another group of simple citizens who say that there is no use in having elections. How many good and educated individuals have we nominated in the past, but in the end they proved to be fake. Then, why do we have to tire ourselves. It is better to stay in

our homes and let God solve our problems.

It is true that there are some who really desperately oppose any change and they push people towards taking a negative view of the homeland.

I think such a point of view is not true since the names of some footballers, actors and artists are better known than the names of some ministers. We are against this negative point of view and the most important thing is to possess a degree of consciousness to differentiate between what is false and what is true. Let us leave all that happened during totalitarianism behind and live in our new epoch; and if the people want free elections, it is essential to trust in themselves and their constitutional rights. It is the duty of the representatives of the parties to supervise the movement of the ballot boxes to ensure the honesty of the elections.

There is also a group who try to spread a desperate feeling among the people by convincing them that it is useless to argue with the current rulers because they will remain in their seats.

We confirm that such a group is much more dangerous to democracy than the rulers themselves. It is understood logically that the rulers of the Third World hold on to the seats of authority, but those who encourage them to do so are the most dangerous of all.

The question is not who

rules, but how to stabilize the foundations of democracy and to achieve the transfer of authority peacefully within certain parameters.

Those who achieved the unification should concern themselves, more than anyone else, with accomplishing and finalizing their mission. Such noble missions like our democratic march will rescue the Yemeni homeland from tribal strifes and civil war.

We are an armed people in comparison to other nations. There is no objection within any of the opposition parties to the return of the two ruling parties to power. We in Al-Rabitah, in particular, have no objection to their return to power provided it is done through democratic means. We are waiting for a lot to be accomplished in the way of democracy to avoid political strife.

Practicing one's constitutional rights does not imply any animosity to a ruling party. To everyone, we say, practice your constitutional rights, adhere to democracy, and don't accept any permanent ruler, because the permanent ruler, even an elected one, is more of a crowned king. Otherwise, why did our people choose the republican system and democracy!

All in all, let us elect our rulers by ourselves and not to be intimidated by those in power.

By: Ahmad Abdu Hamza,  
Al-Haq, Sana'a,  
11/4/1993.

**YEMEN'S MARATHON FOR THE SEATS OF AUTHORITY**

Marshall Abdullah Al-Sallal stated, "The seat of authority is a temptation and we are human beings, not prophets" in a prolonged interview with *Al-Shurook* magazine, last October.

I remembered this statement because of the elections which have seen false promises and programs, violations of the law, and fake campaigns - all of which have moved us from reality to realms of hallucinations and fantasies. All of this could be listed under the struggle for the parliamentary seats.

The unification has paved the way toward democracy, pluralism, and constructing the country. It seems that the reactionary forces haven't studied the rules of the democratic game. Thus, they are able to use loopholes and refrain from any change despite the democratic march. What can we expect from all those who practiced oppression, corruption, and intimidation all those years except more and more corruption?

Today, what are they going to do except distort the facts? They say that all the achievements belong to them and their reign. It is really a marathon for the seats of authority.

By Mohammad Saeed Al-Mashriqi,  
Al-Tas-heeh, Sana'a,  
15/4/1994

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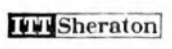
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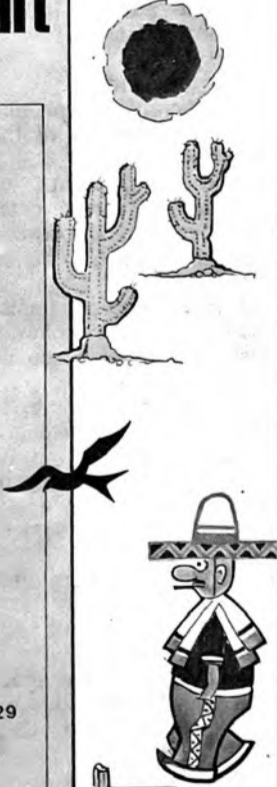
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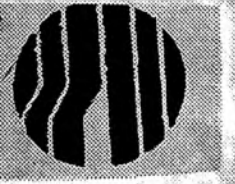


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Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor

**BAIDOA THE PARADISE LOST OF SOMALIA**

Who is responsible for Baidoa being called "The Town of Death"? This is a critical question whose answer is quite controversial.

It is a common fact that Baidoa was known as "Baydhabo Janaay" meaning "The Paradise Baidoa". Baidoa was the capital city of what was once known as "Upper Jubba province" but it was split into four tiny regions by Siad Barre. The province is very famous for its livestock and agriculture.

The Upper Jubbans (the people) are very quite, hard workers and religious community. Without getting any moral or material support from any regime in the past they realized to provide maize, corn, onions, tobacco and beans to the rest of Somali regions. Camels, cows and goats are available in good quantities. The province has its culture and traditional history it belongs its own dialect different from the Somali language. Most of the sons of Upper Jubba recite the holy Quran by heart. The province has university graduates specialised in different educational fields such as professional doctors, teachers, diplomats, engineers, geologists, and prominent politicians. Some of these elites even teach in the universities of America, Europe, and Asia.

But unfortunately since 1960 Upper Jubba was under the domination of other ethnic groups from the other regions of Somalia, and as a result of their mis-administration of public funds of the following projects were confiscated and stolen openly.

1. By project and electricity power system
2. ADC (Agricultural Development Co.)
3. Bonkay Agricultural Centre
4. Baidoa Telecommunication network
5. Markasley Dam Project (BARDERA)

On the other hand as soon as things fall apart in Somalia waves of outsider attacked the province from the four corners and indiscriminately performed shooting, looting, raping and dismantling the infrastructure of the province into pieces.

Crops kept to be consumed up to 1995 were excavated from underground storage and exported to avoided areas.

The Upper Jubbans at once became poor, without anything to eat; they were not even let to grow again. Therefore famine knocked the doors of everyone in the area, then a dramatic death and disease started automatically which claimed thousands of lives mostly children and old people. (number of death estimated to 500,000).

From this fact Baidoa happened to be called "the death town." Besides all of these inhuman actions committed by the devils and their warlords, some of the criminals have the ambition of dominating the Upper Jubbans left behind by the death. They should bear in mind that this is their turn to go to hell.

By: Sayid Hassan Sheriff, Sana'a, Yemen.

**ERITREA ...REFERENDUM!!  
ERITREANS IN YEMEN VOTE "YES"  
FOR INDEPENDENCE.**

Eritrea is geographically located in the northwestern part of the African Continent, having a triangular shape which northwestern base borders the Sudan, the southern border is Ethiopia, and the southwestern base borders Djibouti.

Eritrea covers an area including sea coast on the western bank of the Red Sea and 126 islands reaching the middle of the Red Sea, guarding the southern entrance to the Red Sea just north of Bab-el-Mendeb.

This important strategic location made of Eritrea the center of attraction for greedy invaders; hence it was natural that the history of Eritrea be a chain of wars between natives and a myriad of invaders. Eritreans suffered invasions and armed struggle for over 50 years, until the sacred day of May 24, 1991. The Eritrean People's Liberation Front EPLF drove out the enemy. These rebels who insurrected colonialism and stripped freedom by force, are preparing to challenge an open nationwide "REFERENDUM" to affirm its independence in Eritrea in the end of April.

Eritreans in the Republic of Yemen rush to vote "YES" for independence in Sana'a this April...

**HALLELUJAH FOR THE GLORY...  
CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERY ERITREAN  
WORLDWIDE!**

By: Mohamed Saeed Ismail  
Eritrean in Sana'a, Yemen.

**BOGUS GOVERNMENT, INFANT DEMOCRACY  
AND PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS**

Who says that Yemen is a democratic state? We have not yet achieved that status and what we term as democracy in our country is but a mere infant of democracy and not real democracy in the true sense of the word.

Human rights abuses are rampant and have become the order of the day in our country. What we see and hear in T.V. and what we read in Government newspapers is all but fabrication of the truth and contrary to what is being encountered by the common man in the street.

Corruption and mismanagement of Government funds is another notorious act of the day. Some of the high ranking government officials treat public money as if it were theirs. In Absence of genuine auditing practices, they care the least, knowing very well that no action will be taken against them. Even the judiciary system has not been spared of corruption. It is an epidemic in the midst of our democratic society! Terrorism, in its different methods, is another disease we should get rid off, to become true democratic. The government is encouraging investments on one side and is helpless to combat terrorism on the other.

Price control is another factors hindering our eligibility to democracy.. No citizens of any true democratic state on earth

would wake up from sleep daily to find prices of essential commodities have rocketed up except in Yemen democracy. We have a fully-manned price control board, mind you!

Any new visitor to our country will be startled to view the presidential motorcade with its tremendous numbers of latest Mercedes-Benz and Toyota saloons new models. one would mistake himself to be in the Sultanate of Brunei when viewing an approaching official motorcade. The official palaces resemble those of the rulers of the world's richest countries. The other side of the coin shows poor citizens roaming the streets aimlessly; poor women scanning traffic lights junctions begging for money to feed their children.

Commercial banks have become brothels of bankruptcy. no sensible person on earth would believe that bank have no money. Where on earth then have the deposits going? The central bank is but a tall modern building in Sana'a main city center. It is helpless to curb foreign currency racketeers.

The value of the riyal is always dwindling and its purchasing power has been reduced to minus zero. The common men sufferings have reached their climax. And the official media is telling us of jet-age progress towards democracy. His masters voice is being spread in this and that official newspaper. The emperors and their entourage continue their spending spread while the people are dying ten times a day.

Democracy in our country means the people should eat news broadcasts and monotonous empty slogans while the favorite few shall eat better food, ride latest models, live in spacious villas, spend their leave in Switzerland and maintain secret bank accounts there.

Is this not what we really means by democracy in Yemen? Lack of strict security measures forms the syllabus of Yemen daily life. The giant security apparatus in our country vividly seen in our streets day and night cannot guarantee the safety of the officials let alone the citizens. We have the largest number of colonels in our security systems than any country in the world!. In true democracies, security personnel safeguard the interests of the public but in Yemen they are the corruption-Lords! Never on earth have we seen governments using lies as form of government policy except in Yemen where a person as high as the Prime Minister would appear on TV screen to cheat his public with childish orders which will not be implemented not even by an ordinary policemen let alone the cabinet ministers. They are night orders which evaporate in the morning. Yemenis have been taken for a ride by the current and previous governments and the coming parliamentary elections results would serve as a litmus test to what type of government Yemenis really need. It is up to the voters to decide this. This golden opportunity should not be taken for granted if we really need a change. The election card is the only weapon in our minds to prevent corrupted candidates from gaining access to parliamentary chambers.

By: Abud S. Bat-Heif  
Sana'a.

A grand idea is sometimes a collection of smaller ones. Ingenious little triumphs of design. Unseen but inspired solutions to vexing problems. A sudden insight that enables things to be done differently, Better. Combined, they can become a larger idea that adds to the ease and comfort of our lives.

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Ahmad Bahabib:

# “US-Yemeni relations are on the upswing.”

Although US-Yemeni relations have seen a downward plunge in the recent past, it is increasingly visible that the two countries are headed for better times. One of the people working towards that goal in Ahmad H. Bahabib, a native of Yemen and an American national. Mr. Bahabib, originally from Aden city, works today in the Department of Commerce (the Trade Mark and Patent Office). Mr. Bahabib is also the president of the American-Yemeni Friendship Association (AYFA). On the occasion of his visit to Yemen, Yemen Times interviewed him. Excerpts of the interview follow:

**Q: You are one of many Yemenis who immigrated to the US and settled there. What is the size of the American community of Yemeni extract?**  
**A:** I really don't know. Many numbers are used in this regard. I am comfortable with the number 70,000.

**Q: What kind of life do they lead? I mean their jobs, their lifestyle, income levels, etc.?**

**A:** Most Yemenis work in ordinary jobs, so far. Their lifestyle is an amalgam of Yemeni values plus whatever they increasingly pick from their new home. I have to say though, that we do have a rising number of professionals among us. I can point to examples of first-class surgeons, engineers, mid-level bureaucrats, etc.

The Yemeni Americans are not a rich lot, although they are doing fine. Some of them are thinking of investing in Yemen, specially in the Aden Free Zone, but that depends on many things, including stability and administrative improvements.

**Q: Is there an attachment to Yemen? Do they long for Yemen?**

**A:** There is a strong attachment and a sense of belonging to Yemen, specially among the first generation and even second Yemeni Americans. Let me give an example. On my last visit, I brought one of my sons with me. He decided to stay on for a while to learn more about his father's original home. The fact that we are closely following Yemen's democratization process is another indicator. Such democratic developments increase our pride in our original home and our attachment to it.

**Q: You are the president of the American-Yemeni Friendship Association. When was it established and what are its main goals and plans?**

**A:** AYFA was established in 1992. It is still a newborn. This is an organization of intellectuals and professionals. There are two other organizations that are involved with Yemeni-Americans. Our general objectives are, of course, to help bring the two countries and peoples closer together. In addition, we hope to help the Yemeni Americans. We plan to carry out some specific projects. One of them is to work out the exact number of Yemeni-Americans and to initiate contact among them.

Another project we plan to carry out is to organize exchange visits between Yemeni and American officials, parliamentarians, businessmen, etc.

Thirdly, we plan to publish a newsletter which will provide detailed information to the Yemeni Americans interested in investing in Yemen.

**Q: Do you have any contact or relations with the Yemeni-American Friendship Association (Yafa)?**

**A:** I am happy to say, "Yes." I was partly involved in the preparations for the establishment of Yafa. We hope to be able to work out joint projects and efforts and our goals and objectives are almost the same. One possibility is to help in the arrangements for the coming visit of the Yafa delegation to the USA.

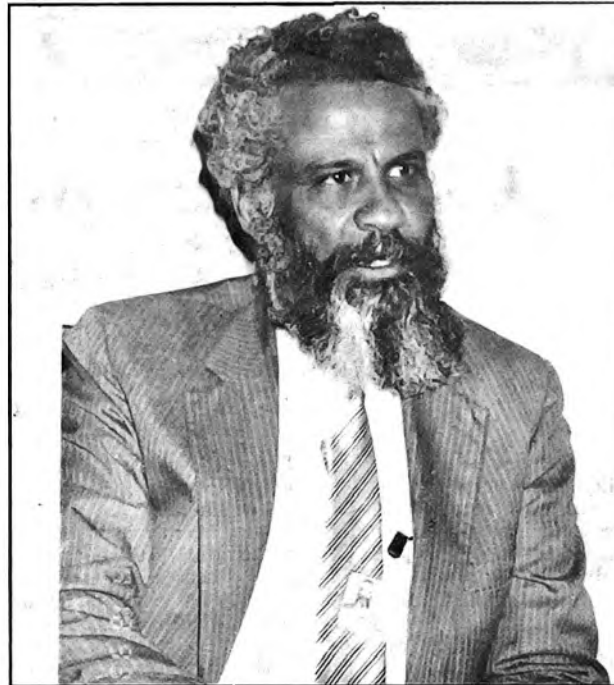
In any case, I am in constant contact with the Yafa Chairman, Mr. Abdul-Wassa Hayel Saeed Anam.

**Q: How do you evaluate the democratization process?**

**A:** I am happy that my original home is the second country in the Middle East to embark on a truly democratic system. It is a worthwhile effort. The process is going on smoothly and correctly, notwithstanding certain minor shortcomings that are to be expected.

**Q: Could you elaborate on these shortcomings?**

**A:** These are, for example, the repeated claims that constituencies were formed to suit the needs of certain parties. Then there is that late kick-off of the female registration stations which is a major issue. The role of the army is a third issue.



Let me say here that at the end of this process, we hope to issue a statement that will, as objectively as we can, comment on the process and specifically whether such irregularities were widespread, intentional, or just part of the difficulties of starting this endeavor.

I think that pluralism is the way of the future, and I am happy that one more Arab/Islamic country has embarked on this course. I feel things will work.

**Q: You have an observer status badge from the Supreme Electoral Committee. Is your current visit connected with the elections?**

**A:** Of course, my visit is timed to coincide with the elections. I am here as an observer to monitor the elections and to help out in any way we can. I can tell you that I am very impressed with the strong and genuine desire to do a good job. I applaud the two ruling parties for seeing the necessity of bringing in other parties to participate with them in the preparations for the elections. I am also happy that the control over the process is taken away from the government (more specifically, the Interior Ministry) to the Supreme Elections Committee which is made up of many parties and independents.

As a Yemeni, I feel very proud of the Yemeni experiment, and I am very hopeful regarding the outcome of this process. Let me add here that during my visit, I plan to go to Aden and make a donation to the flood victims in the name of AYFA. We plan to pay the money directly to the victims themselves, as we have prepared lists that will help us in this regard.

**Q: You have been involved in resolving the problem of local monitoring. What is the problem?**

**A:** There are two points of view regarding local observers who will monitor the elections.

One side states that there are already lots of guarantees, specially in the rights that candidates have in monitoring the process. Therefore, there is no need for additional local monitors.

The other side states that it will be very comforting to the population to note that there are independent observers. This is specially relevant as there is the need to learn from and coordinate with foreign observers.

Already a few committees have been formed for this purpose, but some of them have certain difficulties (read = SEC refusal to grant accreditation). We hope with our good offices we can see that the principle of local monitoring will be upheld.

I personally believe that local monitoring is important regardless of other guarantees.

I would like to stress one point here. The issue of local monitoring is a sensitive one. That means that the persons who will implement such monitoring must be very careful in coming out as really objective and neutral.

They must not even project the perception of partiality. (The National Committee for Free Elections, because of the people who are in charge of it, is seen as partial; i.e., 'friend' of the YSP).

In addition, there are just too many committees to be accredited, and there must be ways to bring these together and to work jointly for the benefit of the country.

So, what I think is needed is to change any individual or group that is perceived as partial or those who have strongly held views regarding any part of the political spectrum.

That is why I think we need less controversial or provocative persons in these monitoring committees for them to function properly. From what I am told, elections will go peacefully.

Continues on page 8

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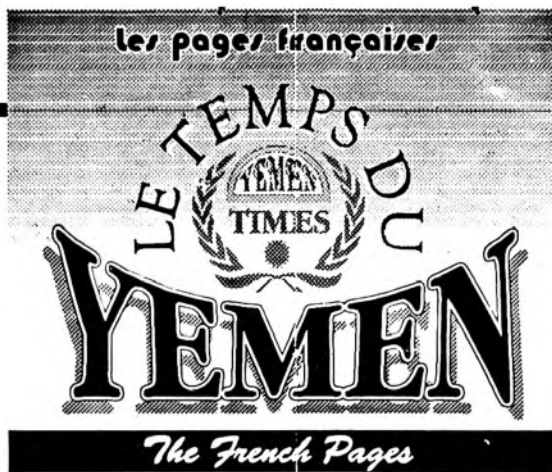
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AVIATION

# L'Airbus A330 testé à Sanaa

Du 4 au 7 avril, le dernier né des Airbus est venu vérifier à Sanaa ses capacités techniques sur les aéroports de haute altitude.

Pendant quatre jours, du 4 au 7 avril dernier, l'aéroport de Sanaa a accueilli le dernier né des Airbus: l'A330. Cet avion, qui peut transporter entre 300 et 400 passagers, est en cours de certification. L'essentiel des tests ont été effectués en France. Mais l'A330 a également besoin de vérifier ses capacités techniques sur les aéroports de haute altitude. Et en France, les seuls aéroports de taille à recevoir cet avion ne sont pas à plus de 400 mètres.

### La densité de l'air est plus faible

"Les conditions aérodynamiques ne sont pas les mêmes en altitude, la densité de l'air est plus faible", explique Robert Pitton, expert en aviation civile auprès de la CAMA (Civil Aviation and Meteorological Authority) à Sanaa. "Les experts du consortium européen sont venus vérifier à Sanaa la capacité de l'A330 à décoller et à atterrir sur un aéroport situé à plus de 2000 mètres d'altitude", ajoute-t-il. L'avion doit aussi être capable de décoller avec un réacteur en panne,

faire du touch and go (un atterrissage suivi d'un décollage immédiat). "Les experts se posent également la question de savoir si l'avion peut décoller d'un aéroport d'altitude avec le plein de passagers", précise Robert Pitton.

Cet expert, qui travaillait jusque-là en France à la DGAC (direction générale de l'aviation civile), est arrivé en septembre dernier au Yémen dans le cadre de la coopération entre les deux pays. Il y a quelques jours, il a reçu des équipements de mesures pour l'aviation civile yéménite, un don de la France qui servira à maintenir les équipements d'aide à l'atterrissage et à la navigation sur l'aéroport de Sanaa.

Un autre projet de coopération franco-yéménite dans le secteur de l'aviation civile va bientôt être réalisé. Il s'agit du projet de rénovation du balisage des pistes et l'étude complète des besoins de l'aéroport d'Aden. Les Français avaient construit dans les années 1985-86 l'aérogare de la capitale de l'ancien Yémen du Sud.

Jérôme BERNARD

CORNE DE L'AFRIQUE

# L'Erythrée prépare son référendum

Les 23, 24 et 25 avril, la population se prononce sur l'indépendance du pays. Le succès du 'oui' semble gagné d'avance.

Le bleu contre le rouge. Les Erythréens auront le choix entre ces deux couleurs les 23, 24 et 25 avril prochains pour décider du sort de leur pays. Le bleu pour le 'oui' à l'indépendance de l'Erythrée, et le rouge pour le 'non' et le maintien de cette ancienne colonie italienne au sein de l'Éthiopie.

Le référendum devrait être sans surprise. Les autorités de transition font tout pour assurer un succès incontestable de leur rêve de sécession vieux de trente ans. Depuis la chute à Addis Abeba, la capitale éthiopienne, du président Mengistu Haile Mariam en mai 1991, l'Erythrée est en effet indépendante de fait. Le FPLE (Front Populaire de Libération Erythréen) dirige ce pays en gestation comme un parti unique. Une situation dénoncée par l'opposition en exil, qui a parlé de menaces de "nouvelle dictature".

Le FPLE a lancé une campagne intense contre le rouge, qui présente une "menace de guerre", selon lui. Le bleu, couleur du drapeau érythréen, est assimilé à la prospérité de

l'Erythrée, ruinée par la plus longue lutte armée jamais menée en Afrique.

Selon le programme annoncé par le FPLE, l'indépendance ne sera effectivement proclamée qu'après des élections législatives multipartites, dont le gouvernement provisoire entend exclure les formations religieuses ou ethniques. L'avenir démocratique promis par le FPLE demeure cependant encore assez flou.

### Le Yémen supervise le référendum

Au lendemain du référendum, le FPLE doit lui-même décider sa dissolution pour se constituer en nouveau parti. Ce dernier devrait profiter de la victoire des bulletins bleus lors du référendum, ce qui devrait ainsi assurer le maintien au pouvoir de M. Afeerki et du noyau dur du FPLE.

Le référendum va être supervisé par plusieurs pays, dont le Yémen, l'Égypte et les États-Unis, et organisations internationales, dont la Ligue arabe et l'Organisation de l'unité africaine (OUA).

Sur une population estimée à 3,5 millions d'habitants, 800 000 électeurs vont voter en Erythrée même. 150 000 des quelque 500 000 Erythréens réfugiés au Soudan, dont la réintégration sera un des principaux problèmes du nouvel État, participeront également au référendum. La diaspora érythréenne, estimée à 150 000 personnes à travers le monde va aussi voter.

Le cas des 60 000 Erythréens vivant en Éthiopie, où ils jouent un rôle économique important, pourrait poser problème après le référendum. Certains Éthiopiens réclament leur départ. Les Erythréens en prenant Asmara, la capitale du futur pays, ont expulsé quelque 25 000 Éthiopiens d'Erythrée, rappellent les nombreux opposants à l'indépendance.

Une violente tempête, qui s'est abattue jeudi sur Massawa, le port érythréen sur la mer Rouge, pourrait retarder le référendum. Au moins deux personnes seraient mortes et 10 000 sont sans abri. De nombreux électeurs ont perdu leurs cartes d'identité et d'électeur, a déclaré le représentant spécial de l'ONU en Erythrée, Samir Sanbar. (AFP)

EN BREF

**Total découvre du pétrole au Yémen:** Le pétrolier français Total, opérateur sur le permis de East Shabwa au Yémen, a annoncé la semaine dernière avoir mis en évidence la présence de pétrole sur la structure de Kharir. Total opère au Yémen pour le compte des sociétés associées sur ce bloc, Kufpec, Pecten (filiale de Shell) et Unocal. Le débit cumulé de Kharir 2 est de l'ordre de 12 000 barils/jour.

**Le président turc Turgut Ozal est mort:** Le président de la Turquie, Turgut Ozal est décédé samedi dernier à l'âge de 66 ans à la suite d'une défaillance cardiaque.

**Un chasseur américain détruit un objectif en Irak:** Un chasseur de l'US Air Force a détruit dimanche une station de radar irakienne au sud de la zone d'exclusion aérienne établie sur le nord de l'Irak. L'équipage se serait senti menacé après que l'avion eut été détecté par le système de repérage de la station radar. Le dernier incident dans la zone d'exclusion remonte au 9 avril, lorsque des appareils américains avaient largué quatre bombes à fragmentation sur une batterie anti-aérienne irakienne.

**Des officiers irakiens tentent d'assassiner Saddam Hussein en août 1991:** Plusieurs officiers supérieurs de l'armée irakienne ont tenté d'assassiner Saddam Hussein en août 1991, selon le Sunday Times, qui rapporte le témoignage d'un professeur d'économie qui servait de lien entre les militaires et qui a réussi à se réfugier à Londres. Les officiers avaient prévu de placer une bombe dans une villa de Saddam Hussein. Déjouée la tentative d'assassinat a entraîné l'arrestation d'une partie des officiers, qui ont depuis disparu.

**Les négociations de paix seraient reportées au 26 avril:** L'OLP a affirmé dimanche que les Arabes engagés dans le processus de paix au Proche-Orient allaient opter lundi à Damas, où ils sont réunis, pour le report au 26 avril de la reprise des négociations bilatérales à Washington. La prochaine session des négociations de paix était prévue jusque-là le 20 avril.

**Essais concluants pour un vaccin anticholérique:** Les essais d'un nouveau vaccin anticholérique fabriqué en Suisse effectués auprès d'enfants indonésiens se sont avérés concluants. Ce vaccin absorbé par voie buccale est bien toléré et possède un fort pouvoir immunisant. Il est produit par l'Institut sérothérapique et vaccinal suisse (ISV) à Berne.

DJIBOUTI

# Les rebelles afars dénoncent le blocus alimentaire

Le gouvernement dément imposer ce blocus aux populations du nord du pays, où la guérilla est active.

Le blocus alimentaire par l'armée régulière djiboutienne des civils du nord du pays se poursuit, selon Ahmed Dini, président du FRUD (Front pour la Restauration de l'Unité et de la Démocratie). Les accusations du chef des rebelles afars ont été immédiatement démenties par le gouvernement djiboutien. Depuis le début de la rébellion en novembre 1991, "les populations ont bénéficié de l'assistance alimentaire humanitaire des forces françaises à Djibouti, relayées depuis janvier par la Croix Rouge", a affirmé dans un communiqué mercredi dernier le porte-parole du gouvernement.

La série de succès contre le FRUD dans le nord et le sud-ouest de Djibouti. Ahmed Dini a reconnu que ses combattants ont perdu le contrôle de la côte de la mer Rouge, notamment les positions de Ras Bir et Khor Angar.

### Plus de ravitaillement venu du Yémen

"La perte de Khor Angar nous pose des problèmes de ravitaillement depuis le Yémen, à travers le détroit de Bab Al-Mandab. Il ne nous reste plus que les pistes chamélières", a précisé Ahmed Dini.

Le chef des rebelles afars assure que l'armée régulière dispose de milliers d'obus, de mitrailleuses et de lance-roquettes. "Nous lui opposons la kalachnikov, quelques mitrailleuses et obus que nous lui avons pris", a-t-il affirmé.

Par ailleurs, le président du FRUD a réaffirmé l'opposition du mouvement rebelle afar à l'élection présidentielle prévue le 7 mai à Djibouti. Selon lui, le président Hassan Gouled est imbattable par les urnes "car il a à son service toute l'administration". (AFP)

### L'armée française accusée

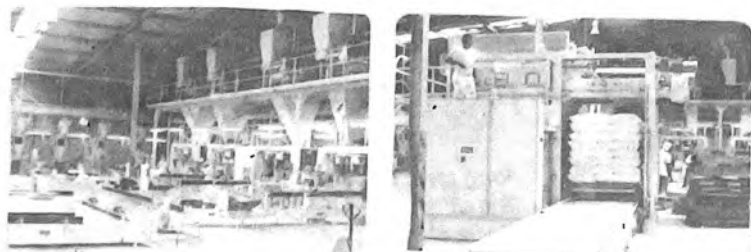
Ahmed Dini a d'autre part accusé les forces françaises stationnées à Djibouti de prendre partie dans le conflit en entraînant les soldats de l'armée régulière au tir de mortier et au déminage. Il a ajouté que l'armée djiboutienne obtient des renseignements sur les positions du FRUD auprès de l'état-major français.

L'armée régulière remporte, dans sa contre-offensive lancée depuis le début de l'année, une



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ELECTIONS

# La campagne officielle est lancée

Depuis samedi 17 avril, le Yémen est entré officiellement en campagne pour les élections législatives qui se dérouleront le 27 avril. Les premières affiches de candidats ont commencé à fleurir dans les villes du pays.

Plus de 4800 candidats ont été enregistrés par la Haute Commission électorale, pour 301 circonscriptions. La Commission a repoussé de trois jours, du 17 au 20 avril, la date limite accordée aux candidats qui veulent se désister.

D'autre part, le chef de file de l'opposition, Omar Al-Gaoui, leader du Parti du Rassemblement Unioniste Yéménite (PRUY) a mis en garde jeudi le CPG et le PSY contre tout trucage des élections. Il a accusé ces deux partis, l'Islah, le parti Baas et le Bloc Unioniste Populaire Nassérien de chercher à liquider physiquement des dirigeants d'autres partis en lice.

Deux jours auparavant, une explosion s'est produite à Sanaa près de la résidence d'Abderrahman Ali Al-Jafri, président du parti de la Ligue des Fils

du Yémen. La déflagration a provoqué des dégâts dans le mur d'enceinte de la résidence.

La semaine dernière, nous vous avons présenté une synthèse du programme électoral du PSY (Parti socialiste yéménite), dirigé par Ali Salem Al-Bid, vice-président de la République, et du programme de l'Islah, parti islamiste dirigé par le Cheikh Al-Ahmar, chef suprême des tribus Hashed. Nous vous présentons ci-dessous les programmes du CPG, le parti du Président Saleh, et du Bloc Unioniste Populaire Nassérien.

## Le programme électoral du CPG (Congrès Populaire Général)

Le CPG, parti qui partage actuellement le pouvoir avec le PSY, a pour chef de file le Président de la République Ali Abdallah Saleh. Jusqu'à l'unification, le CPG a été le parti tout puissant au nord.

Le programme du Congrès populaire général est paru intégralement en arabe dans *Al Thawra* daté du 28 mars. Nous en dégageons ici les points essentiels.

Dans un très long préambule, le CPG insiste sur son caractère rassembleur. Emanant du peuple, comportant des représentants de toutes les classes sociales, ce parti serait, selon lui, le mieux à même de répondre aux aspirations des Yéménites. Le CPG estime ainsi qu'il est "particulièrement apte à comprendre les besoins du peuple". Le programme du CPG détaille ensuite toutes les réalisations récentes du pouvoir:



Ali Abdallah Saleh, président de la République du Yémen, est le leader du CPG.

l'unification, la reconstruction du barrage de Mareb (symbole de la grandeur retrouvée du pays), l'élévation du niveau de vie des habitants, une politique étrangère équilibrée et modérée, l'instauration du principe

de la participation populaire par la constitution de conseils locaux, municipaux et du Conseil consultatif élus.

Le programme du CPG comporte ensuite cinq parties principales. En priorité, l'économie

doit être libre, le développement financé par l'investissement privé et mixte, national ou étranger. Elle doit donner des chances de travail à tous et assurer un niveau de vie décent aux citoyens. Le parti du Président veut réduire le train de vie de l'Etat et accroître les recettes, afin que l'équilibre budgétaire soit rétabli. Il souhaite que l'économie yéménite devienne progressivement une économie de production et veut encourager l'industrie, l'artisanat, l'extraction minière, le secteur pétrolier et le tourisme. Dans l'agriculture, des barrages doivent être construits ainsi que des réseaux d'irrigation, pour permettre le développement des surfaces cultivées et des exportations.

### Eradiquer la corruption

La deuxième partie du programme du CPG traite de l'administration et des affaires sociales. Le parti estime ainsi que le système éducatif doit être mieux orienté vers les besoins du développement. L'enseignement obligatoire et gratuit doit être généralisé. Un effort doit être fait pour lutter contre l'analphabétisme, préserver le patrimoine, encourager les arts et garantir la liberté d'expression.

Le CPG reconnaît également que la corruption et l'inflation des postes dans l'Administration doivent être éradiqués. D'autre part, le parti prône la décentralisation. Selon lui, les conseils locaux doivent être élus et disposer de davantage de compétences.

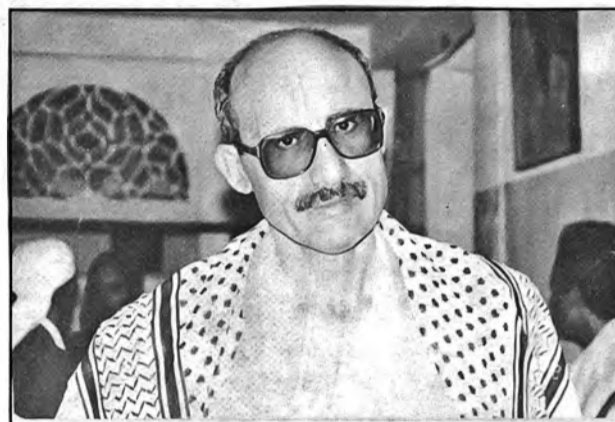
Le parti du Président veut développer le système de santé et affirme que la famille et les handicapés doivent être protégés. Il insiste également, tout en restant prudent, sur le "rôle essentiel des femmes dans tous les domaines de la vie politique, économique et sociale du pays".

Dans un quatrième chapitre, le CPG traite de la sécurité et affirme vouloir renforcer la lutte contre les criminels, le terrorisme politique, le trafic des drogues et la vengeance du sang ("Thar"). Il souhaite un pouvoir judiciaire indépendant, plus professionnel, des procédures accélérées et simplifiées. Le CPG propose de créer une police judiciaire et de renforcer le rôle du Procureur général.

La Défense nationale est l'objet d'une quatrième partie. Le parti du Président veut notamment accroître les performances de l'armée.

Enfin dans une cinquième partie, le CPG traite des relations étrangères, qui doivent servir au développement économique et social. Le CPG veut surtout resserrer les liens avec l'Arabie Saoudite.

## Le programme électoral du BUPN (Bloc Unioniste Populaire Nassérien)



Abdul Ghani Thabit est le secrétaire général du comité exécutif du Bloc Unioniste Populaire Nassérien.

Le BUPN (Bloc Unioniste Populaire Nassérien), est actuellement dirigé par Abdul Ghani Thabit. Ce parti panarabiste a été créé après la visite de Nasser à Taëz. Il existe aujourd'hui deux autres partis nassériens, le BPCN (Bloc Correctif Populaire Nassérien) et le PDN (Parti Démocratique Nassérien), de moindre importance.

Le programme du Bloc Unioniste Populaire Nassérien est paru intégralement en arabe dans le quotidien *Al Thawra* daté du 11 avril. Nous en dégageons ici les points essentiels.

En introduction, le BUPN rappelle son appartenance à l'idéologie nassérienne, en tant qu'idéologie révolutionnaire arabe". Son programme se divise ensuite en cinq chapitres.

Le premier traite de la politique. Le parti nassérien veut conserver le système républicain. Il demande la protection de l'unité nationale, qu'il considère comme le fondement de la construction de la société et la source du pouvoir.

D'autre part, pour "approfondir le multipartisme, nous devons établir des syndicats et des organisations populaires indépendantes". Selon le BUPN, il faut garantir le droit du peuple de choisir son gouvernement local et national et le droit des citoyens de demander des comptes aux députés. Le parti nassérien réclame aussi la réalisation de "l'union de notre peuple avec les nations arabes".

Dans une seconde partie, le programme du parti nassérien parle d'économie. Il veut mettre fin à la spéculation sur les prix, en fixant ceux-ci et en créant une association de consommateurs. Il faut améliorer, selon lui, l'approvisionnement des produits de base dont les prix sont soutenus par l'Etat, comme l'huile, la nourriture pour les enfants, les médicaments et les vêtements. Le parti nassérien réclame la révision de la politique monétaire et financière et propose notamment de mettre en place un organisme qui garantisse l'indépendance de la banque centrale. Le BUPN veut surtout promouvoir un déve-

loppement économique "indépendant de l'étranger".

Le parti nassérien propose d'élargir la propriété populaire notamment à travers les coopératives. Il veut "donner sa chance à tout le monde". Enfin, il souhaite encourager les investissements nationaux, arabes et étrangers.

Dans une troisième partie, le programme du BUPN traite de l'administration et de l'armée. Le parti nassérien affirme vouloir mettre fin à la corruption et aux "négligences administratives". Il veut faire voter une loi destinée à "sauvegarder l'argent et la propriété immobilière de l'Etat". Le BUPN souhaite encourager une initiative populaire pour "présenter les corrompus à la justice". Il veut mettre en place la décentralisation. Enfin, il demande le renouvellement des forces armées "selon des bases nationales" en accord avec la Constitution.

### Lutter contre le chômage

Dans une quatrième partie, le parti nassérien fait des propositions concernant la société. Il veut réaliser un régime de solidarité sociale qui permette de subvenir aux besoins des citoyens "en cas d'invalidité de vieillesse ou de chômage". Pour assurer la sécurité et la stabilité du pays, il désire trouver une solution au chômage et aux règlements de compte entre les tribus. Le parti réclame "une véritable gratuité de l'enseignement" et propose d'instaurer la gratuité de la santé. Le parti veut aussi mettre fin à la "dégradation que connaissent les services de santé" et encourager les investissements dans ce domaine. Enfin, le parti nassérien souhaite garantir le droit des femmes "conformément aux valeurs de notre religion et de notre tradition".

Dans une dernière partie, le parti nassérien traite de la justice. Il réclame une justice équitable et indépendante. Il veut que tous les appareils d'Etat soient soumis à la Constitution. Enfin, il demande qu'une loi empêche les députés de se faire réélire plus d'une fois, "pour garantir le renouvellement" de l'Assemblée.

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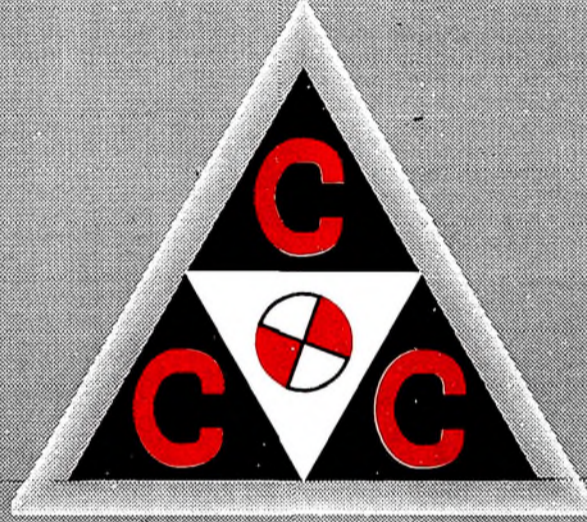
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# TRADE TALKS AND THE FARMERS

Any attempt by the new US administration under Bill Clinton to renegotiate the agricultural deal struck with the Bush administration with the European Community (EC) may scupper the far-ranging General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). "A deal is a deal is a deal," said UK Agriculture Minister John Gummer at a London conference last week on European agriculture. "We have reached our absolute limit in terms of our contribution towards a GATT deal on agriculture," echoed Rene Streichen, the newly-appointed EC Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

The cross-Atlantic deal, agreed at Blair House in Washington last November, took the US and EC seven years to reach. It includes:

1. Limits on the area the EC devotes to oilseeds to 4.615 million hectares.
2. Limits on subsidised exports to 21% of the average level from 1986-89, to be reduced over six years starting from 1994.
3. US acceptance of EC compensation to farmers who set aside 15% of their arable land for price cuts in European reforms.

Many farmers, from the American midwest to the dairy producers in Europe, are far from happy.

Hans Bender, director of the Danish Dairy Board, refers to the settlement as the "General Agreement to Terrorise Trade." Bender says negotiators focused on grain and bulk products like oilseeds and left a poor deal for the dairy sector, which faces immediate cuts of almost half in cheese exports in the first year of the outline agreement.

Even sections of the food industry are unhappy, according to Alec McClumpha, of the UK Food and Drink Federation and formerly general manager of Nestle UK's overseas trading division. For McClumpha, the problems include the focus on agricultural bulk exports, putting controls on volumes of exports and treating highly processed or consumer-ready products in the same way as raw materials such as cereals, sugar, meat and milk. The EC is the only major exporter of value-added products, he points out, exporting two-thirds of the 25 billion ECU of EC agricultural exports as added value products of some kind. The proposed changes could hit these exports.

But for the Blair House agreement to take effect requires an overall Gatt agreement, still a long way off. Already under way, however, is a controversial reform of the EC Common Agricultural Policy (Cap). Its cornerstone is to reduce the price paid to EC farmers for cereals to world market levels.

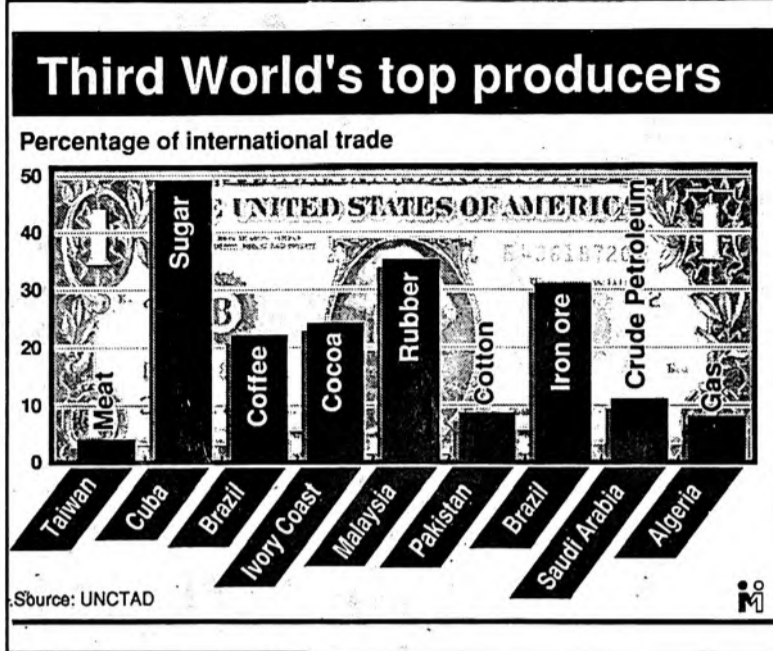
That would require a cut of about one-third from the current target or floor price of 155 ECU/tonne in the 1996-1997 fiscal year. Farmers with less than 20 ha and those who set aside 15 per cent of their arable land will get compensatory payments. These will equal the difference between the 1991-2 target price and the new, lower target prices, calculated on the basis of the average regional yield in the three years to 1990-91 so that any yields above this level will not get any compensation. The commission experts productivity will remain the same, but industry analyst Brian Gardner of EPA

Associates disagrees. "The set-aside effect will be very much less than expected and the productivity will be increasing 1.5% per year or more."

The EC might try to dump surplus cereals stocks before any Gatt agreement takes effect and so depress world prices, fears cereal trader Raymond Rogers of Finagrain, a part of Continental Grain. One way to prevent a depression of world prices in such a circumstance would be to direct a massive food aid effort to the former Soviet Union, says Rogers. Changes in Europe could also have a major impact on developing countries. Despite Gummer's strong comment in London that it was not acceptable that rich areas of the world so support their agriculture that they destroy the agriculture of poor areas of the world, the proof has yet to be seen.

With falling cereals prices in Europe changing the relative cost of animal feed, Thailand could be hit as a supplier of manioc, or tapioca, for feed, says Prof Stefan Tangermann of the Institute of Agricultural Economics at the University of Gottingen in Germany.

Rogers says that in the case of tapioca and other marginal foodstuffs "the producing countries have to feel the pain for one or two years before they reduce production." This is an exceptional case, believes Tangermann, as most exporting countries - for example, Argentina - would benefit from reduced



cereal subsidies in Europe. Such cuts would relieve the pressure on the world markets, although food exporters would benefit more from the GATT agreement. This is expected to raise world cereal prices by 10 to 15%, with a higher rise for milk and beef and even more for sugar.

While agricultural exporting countries may gain, importing countries will lose out without some help. High food prices should also encourage such countries to give a higher priority to improving their own agriculture, says Simon Harris, director of corporate affairs

for British Sugar and head of the trade policy group at the UK Food and Drink Federation.

Harris wants EC support for non-food crops, especially sugar. Reforming the EC sugar regime has been delayed yet again, prompting Gummer to complain about the slow progress. All EC Commissioner Streichen would say was that he is still waiting for proposals from his officials.

Cutting the sugar price for beet producers in Europe could devastate the lives of hundreds of thousands of families in the 13 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries which export

and transferable across the EC initially.

Ultimately Tangermann wants quotas eliminated. His research is underwritten by large sugar users and he expects minimal reform because of what he calls the "scandalous influence of the sugar lobby."

He says he would like to see the sugar protocol in the ACP agreement, which guarantees that the EC buys and imports 1.3 million tons of sugar per year, replaced by lump sum payments to the countries to diversify their agriculture. Tangermann adds, "It is a scandalous nonsense that sugar is exported

sugar to the EC, says the

World Development Movement (WDM) in the UK.

WDM is lobbying the Commission, Parliament and Council of Ministers to protect the interest of the sugar producers in any reform.

Tangermann wants EC beet prices to drop by at least half with direct links between the beet grower and factory cut. And he wants quotas to be made nego-

tiable and transferable across the EC initially. Ultimately Tangermann wants quotas eliminated. His research is underwritten by large sugar users and he expects minimal reform because of what he calls the "scandalous influence of the sugar lobby."

He says he would like to see the sugar protocol in the ACP agreement, which guarantees that the EC buys and imports 1.3 million tons of sugar per year, replaced by lump sum payments to the countries to diversify their agriculture. Tangermann adds, "It is a scandalous nonsense that sugar is exported

to the EC to be re-exported abroad again.

Walter Cools, secretary-general of the Committee of Industrial Sugar Users, which commissioned Tangermann to produce a reform proposal for the sugar regime, says: "For the sugar industry, sugar is sugar. We don't care where it comes from."

The group says it is not opposed to the EC helping certain developing countries by ensuring they receive a "guaranteed price for sugar which they are authorized to deliver." However, they and the EC Court of Auditors want such support to be taken out of the Cap and the agriculture budget, or put more directly as development aid.

The days of massive support for farmers from European taxpayers may be numbered if the general feeling at this conference and also at the National Farmers Union a few weeks earlier is any indication.

Streichen reminded the audience that agriculture now accounts for less than 9% of European Community exports and 2.6% of the gross domestic production.

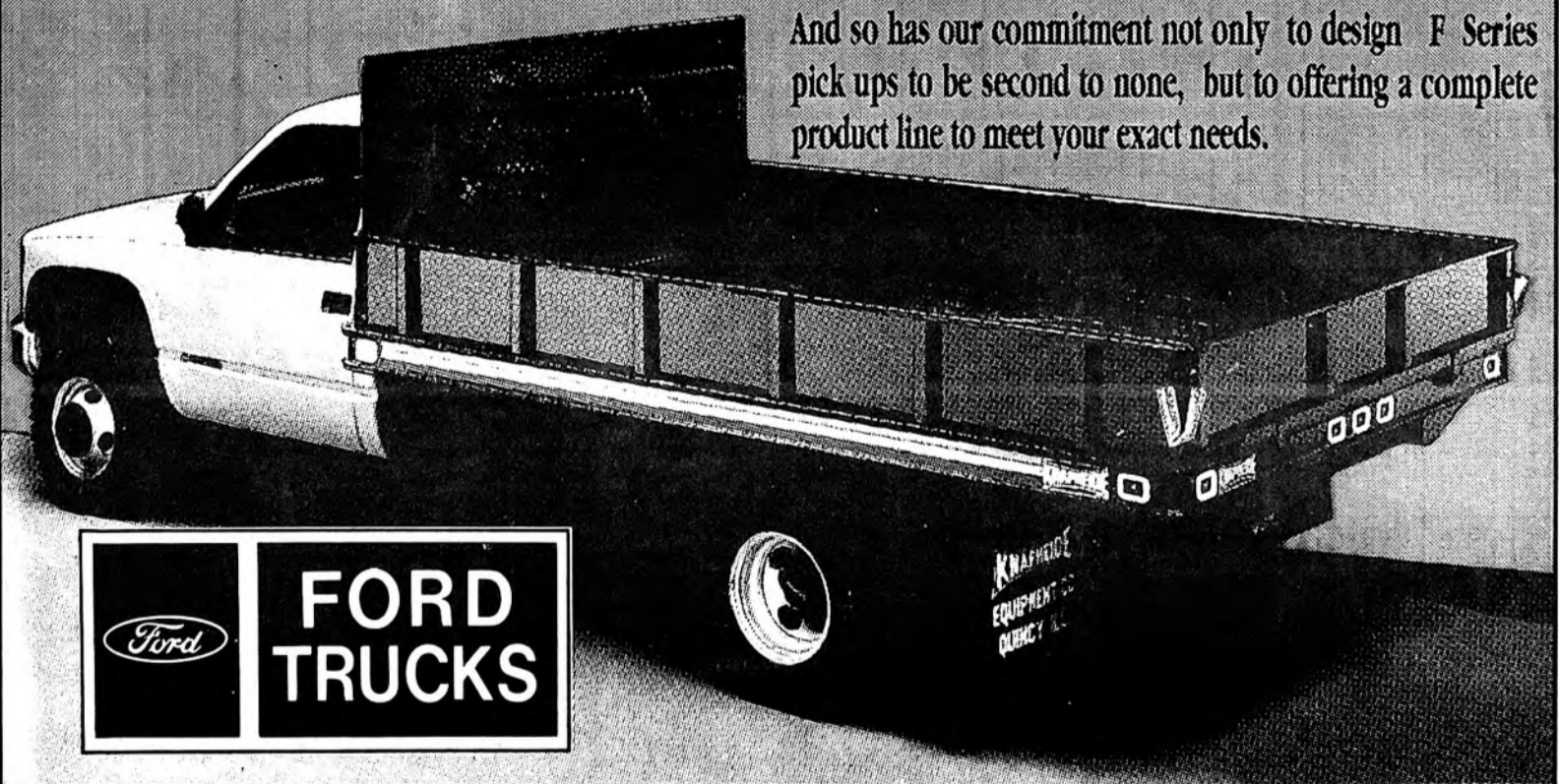
He asked, "Should agriculture be seen as an obstacle to a Gatt deal, can the sector expect to maintain its present level of support long-term, especially at a time when the numbers unemployed almost double those in farming?"

Agriculture policy makers are groping with the questions.

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**ANSWERS to Trial Exams of Page 2:**

**LITERARY SECTION:**

- A:**  
1. a, 2. a, 3. c, 4. a, 5. a,  
6. c, 7. b, 8. b, 9. b, 10. b
- B:**  
1. telling, 2. speaking, 3. came,  
4. kind, 5. warmly.
- C:**  
1. terrible, 2. battle, 3. tribes,  
4. experiences, 5. defeated.
- D:**  
1. I used to be a good footballer, but I am not now.  
2. She practises everyday so that she can get the cup.  
3. Zakah should be given.  
4. As a result of arriving late, you missed the quiz.  
5. What was one of the first places in Yemen to be converted to Islam?
- E:**  
1. very, 2. well, 3. looks, 4. Really,  
5. do, 6. matter, 7. think, 8. studies,  
9. repairs, 10. perhaps, 11. can, 12. well,  
13. business, 14. is not.

**SCIENTIFIC SECTION:**

- A:**  
1. few, 2. into, 3. brittle,  
4. was measured, 5. was reading,  
6. whose, 7. a few, 8. transparent,  
9. a few, 10. little.
- B:**  
1. A mirror was invented.  
2. The flask has been filled with coloured water.  
3. The exercise has not been done.  
4. The food will be cooked.  
5. That picture is drawn every lesson.
- C:**  
1. expands, 2. money is,  
3. was assembled, 4. attached to,  
5. is conical.
- D:**  
1. exterior angles: are angles which are outside a triangle.  
2. A flask: is an instrument which is used for holding liquids.  
3. A stand: is an instrument which is used for supporting objects.
- E:**  
1.  $\pi = 3.14$   
2.  $5/8 > 1/3$   
3.  $6 \times 12 = 72$

**LESSON #41**

**Adjectives from place names, part four**

**PRETEST** Fill in the blanks with the correct noun for the place names.

- A person from Afghanistan is an \_\_\_\_\_.
- A man from France is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person from Greece is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person from Germany is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person from Yemen is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person from Britain is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person from Finland is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person from Spain is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person from Sweden is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person from Thailand is a \_\_\_\_\_.

In this week's lesson we take on a new twist in the language of nationality: the noun forms that refer to a person from a particular place. Most of the time these nouns are easy; they are the same forms as the adjectives, but are used as nouns rather than adjectives. Armed with that information, the following exercise should be very easy.

**Practice A** Complete the following:

- Ahmed is from Kuwait; he is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Jean-Paul is from Canada; he is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Charles is from Tanzania; he is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Mikhail is from Russia; he is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Irfan is from Pakistan; he is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sophia is from Greece; she is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Maria is from Mexico; she is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- John is from America; he is an \_\_\_\_\_.
- Hiroko is from Japan; she is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Shakhnoza is from Uzbekistan; she is an \_\_\_\_\_.

There are, of course, some place names which have different forms for the person of that nationality. Here are some of them:

place	adjective	person
Britain	British	Briton
Denmark	Danish	Dane
England	English	Englishman
Finland	Finnish	Finn
France	French	Frenchman
Ireland	Irish	Irishman
Latvia	Latvian	Lett
The Netherlands	Dutch	Dutchman
Scotland	Scottish	Scotsman, Scot
Spain	Spanish	Spaniard
Sweden	Swedish	Swede
Turkey	Turkish	Turk

**Notes:** The adjective is used for the nationality as a whole...an Englishman, but the English.

For nouns ending in -man, there are corresponding forms which end in -woman.

**Practice B** Complete the following:

- Gillian is from England; she is an \_\_\_\_\_.
- Genevieve is from France; she is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Saara is from Finland; she is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Carlos is from Spain; he is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Anna is from Denmark; she is a \_\_\_\_\_.

In these last four lessons I have given you a lot of information and ideas, but there is still a lot left that hasn't been revealed. Changing geography doesn't help matters much. Is someone from the nation of Belarus (formerly Belorussia or the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) still a Belorussian, or a Belorusan? Belorusese? Now that Czechoslovakia has split, what will happen? Slovakia fits English language patterns, but somehow the Czech Republic doesn't seem quite right. It's an adjective without a place name from which to originate.

Two pieces of advice: 1. If you're not sure what to call things and people from a certain place, listen to what they call themselves. 2. Never hesitate to call a person from Dubai simply "a person from Dubai."

**Just for fun**

What would you call a person from the Seychelles?

- a. a Seychellian? b. a Seychellese? c. a Seychelle?

What would you call a person from Abu Dhabi?

- a. an Abu Dhabian? b. an Abu Dhabi? c. an Abu Dhab?

What would you call a person from Kiribati?

- a. a Kiribatian? b. a Kiribat? c. a Kiribatese?

For even more fun, find all of these places on a world map!

**WEEKLY IDIOM**

**LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP**

This idiom means to be cautious before making a decision or taking a step.

You'd better look before you leap. This could be a bad move.



ANSWERS Pretest 1. Afghan 2. Frenchman 3. Greek 4. German 5. Yemeni 6. Briton 7. Finn 8. Spaniard 9. Swede 10. Thai Practice A 1. Kuwaiti 2. Canadian 3. Tanzanian 4. Russian 5. Pakistani 6. Greek 7. Mexican 8. American 9. Japanese 10. Uzbek Practice B 1. Dane 2. Frenchwoman 3. Finnishwoman 4. Belorussian 5. Belorussian 6. Belorussian 7. Belorussian 8. Belorussian 9. Belorussian 10. Belorussian 11. Belorussian 12. Belorussian 13. Belorussian 14. Belorussian 15. Belorussian 16. Belorussian 17. Belorussian 18. Belorussian 19. Belorussian 20. Belorussian



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Iraq	216681/790
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Somalia	208864
Sudan	265231/2

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011	
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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

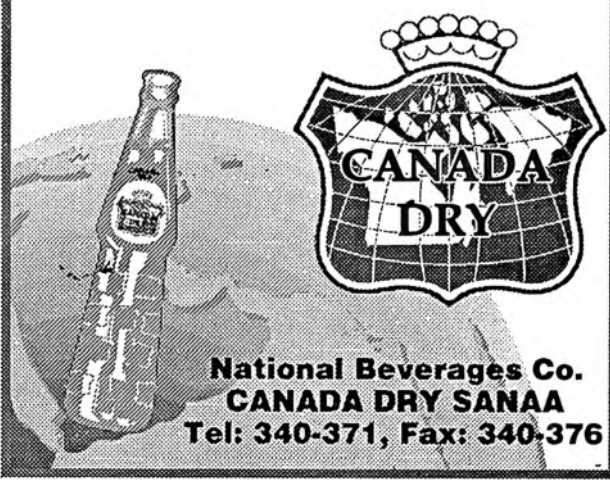
**THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY - SANAA HAS THE SAD DUTY TO INFORM THE BROTHERLY YEMENI PEOPLE THAT**

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**Foreign Observers and Journalists Flock into Sanaa**

A number of foreign observers and journalists began arriving in Yemen in connection with the April 27th elections. Prominent newspapers and TV and radio stations have sent teams to cover the elections. The number of foreign journalists is, however, much less than previously estimated. The total number is estimated to reach four hundred journalists. The number of foreign observers is also much smaller than formerly anticipated. Most are coming as invited guests, especially the official delegates from Yemen's aid partners as

well as states in the region. The International Republican Institute is bringing to Yemen a 25-person observer delegation that includes nationals from the USA, the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Turkey, Egypt, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Oman, etc. Official delegates from the UK, Denmark, Canada, and other countries, are also arriving over the next few days. The total number of foreign visitors in connection with the elections is now estimated at around 1000 persons.

To cope with their needs and programs of stay, the Supreme Electoral Committee has named one of its members, Mr. Ahmed Qarhash, to head a sub-committee charged with the task of making the logistic and other arrangements for the visitors. At the same time, an information center has been set headed by Mr. Alawi Al-Saqqaf. According to Al-Saqqaf, the center, which is located at the Military Club on Zubeiri Street in Sanaa, will provide the journalists and reporters with communications facilities. "Secretarial and other

services will also be made available," he said. The center will also provide on the hour report of progress on the elections as the information comes from the polling stations. "Reporters who wish to use these facilities have to be accredited with us," Mr. Al-Saqqaf added. The foreign observers will release a statement of preliminary observations in a press conference at the Taj Sheba Hotel on April 29th. "We hope to have something nice to report," said Jeffery Crouse, Program Officer of the International Republican Institute.

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*presents its heart-felt congratulations to the Yemeni people and its political leadership for successfully making arrangements to hold parliamentary elections.*

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